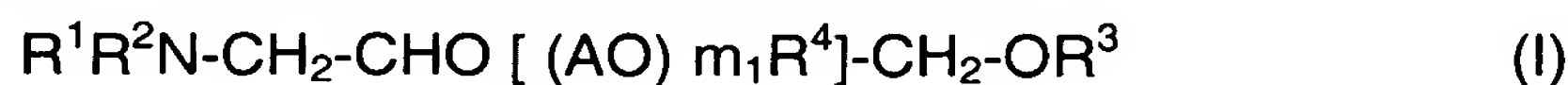


Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1. (Original) A compound of the formula (I):



where

R^1 is an alkoxyated polyhydroxy hydrocarbyl group; or

R^2 is independently a group as defined for R^1 ; hydrocarbyl, particularly alkyl; alkoxyalkyl; optionally end-capped alkoxyated hydroxyalkyl; or

R^2 is a group of the formula: $-CH_2-CHO[(AO) m_1 R^4]-CH_2-OR^3$ where AO, m_1 , R^4 and R^3 are each independently as defined below;

R^3 is hydrocarbyl, usually C_6 to C_{30} , particularly C_8 to C_{30} , more particularly C_{10} to C_{20} , especially alkyl, alkenyl, alkaryl, aryl or aralkyl;

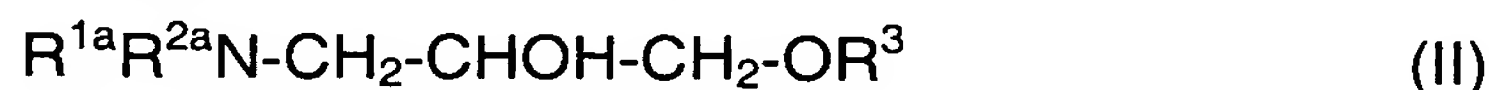
each AO is independently an alkyleneoxy group, particularly a C_2 to C_4 alkyleneoxy group, especially a C_2 or C_3 alkyleneoxy group, or a mixture of C_2 and C_3 alkyleneoxy groups;

m_1 is from 0 to 50, but usually at least 0.1, and desirably from 0.5 to 20; and

R^4 is hydrogen, or alkyl;

such that the average total number of alkyleneoxy groups in the molecule is at least 3.

2. (Original) An alkoxyated compound of the formula (II)



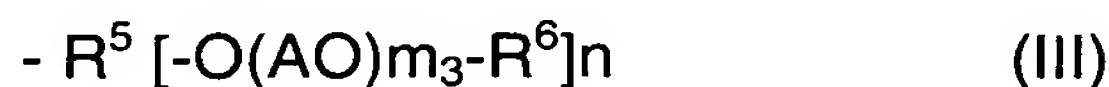
where

R^{1a} is a polyhydroxy hydrocarbyl group;

R^{2a} is independently a group as defined for R^{1a} , or is hydrocarbyl, particularly alkyl or alkoxyalkyl or hydroxyalkyl, or is a group of the formula: $-CH_2-CHOH-CH_2-OR^3$ where R^3 is hydrocarbyl,

in which the average total number of alkyleneoxy groups in the molecule is at least 3.

3. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is a group of the formula (III):



where

R⁵ is the residue of a hydrocarbyl group;

R⁶ is hydrogen, or alkyl;

AO is an alkyleneoxy group;

m₃ is an average value of from 1 to 20; and

n is from 3 to 10.

4. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 3 wherein R⁵ is the residue (notionally obtained by removing hydroxyl groups from the parent group) of a polyhydroxy alkyl group having a linear C₄ to C₇ chain.

5. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~either claim 3 or claim 4~~ claim 3 wherein n is from 3 to 6.

6. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2 to 4~~ claim 1 wherein R² is an alkyl group and R³ is a C₁₀ to C₃₀ alkyl, alkenyl, alkaryl, aryl or aralkyl group.

7. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2 to 5~~ claim 1 wherein the alkyleneoxy group (s) AO is(are) ethyleneoxy, propyleneoxy or mixtures of ethyleneoxy and propyleneoxy groups.

8. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 6 wherein the total number of alkyleneoxy groups in the compound of the formula (I) is from 5 to 30.

9. (Currently amended) An agrochemical composition including as adjuvant a compound of the formula (I) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.

10. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in claims 9 wherein the agrochemically active compound is one or more plant growth regulators, herbicides, and/or pesticides, for example insecticides, fungicides, acaricides, nematocides, miticides, rodenticides, bactericides, molluscicides and/or bird repellants.

11. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 9 wherein the agrochemically active compound is or includes at least one water soluble herbicide.

12. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 10 wherein the water soluble herbicide is or includes at least one phosphonomethyl glycine ; at least one phosphinyl amino acid; and/or at least one bipyridinium compound.

13. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 12~~ claim 9 which additionally includes at least one further surfactant.

14. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 13 which additionally includes at least one alkylpolysaccharide surfactant.

15. (Currently amended) A method of treating vegetation by applying to plants and/or soil a composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 14~~ claim 9.

16. (Currently amended) A method of killing or inhibiting vegetation by applying a formulation as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 14~~ claim 9 which includes one or more growth regulators and/or herbicides and at least one compound of the general formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6 as an adjuvant.

17. (Currently amended) A method of killing plant pests by applying a formulation as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 14~~ claim 9 which includes one or more pesticides, fungicides or acaricides, and at least one compound of the general formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6 as an adjuvant.